have instructed them that whatever be the landed cost of the imported material, the domestic price should not go beyond the landed cost of the steel. That we have instructed, and we are looking into it that there is no short supply for the end users.

श्री परमेंश्वर कुमार अग्रवाला : महोदया, मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान एक विशेष स्थिति की तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । स्टील प्रोडक्शन में मेटलर्जिकल कोक की आम भूमिका है। जितना स्टील प्रोडक्शन होता है उससे आधा कम से कम मेटलर्जिकल कोक की आवश्यकता होती है । वर्ल्ड मार्केट में जो मेटलर्जिकल कोक था जिसकी कीमत 98 डॉलर थी वह अब 250 डॉलर हो गई है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Floating of global tenders by Railways

*261. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have ignored the claims of the Ranchi-based Heavy Engineering Corporation while awarding works as reported in the media;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether Railways have been floating global tenders for many of the important works and ignoring the indigenous companies; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No works, as claimed by the Statesman of September 15,2003, have been awarded to a foreign company ignoring the claims of Ranchi based Heavy Engineering Corporation.

(c) No Sir. Indigenous companies are also eligible to participate in Global Tenders and their offers are given due consideration on merits.

(d) Does not arise.